

Attorney Docket No.: LUKP:123US
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/711,823
Reply to Office Action of November 27, 2007
Dated: January 23, 2008

Remarks

Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 9 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,911,031 (Yoshimura et al.), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,082,215 (Jerwick).

In the Office Action of November 27, 2007, the Examiner stated that Claim 5, 7, and 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended Claims 7 and 8 to each recite the limitations of Claim 1 and have amended Claim 1 to recite the limitations of Claim 5. Therefore, Claims 5, 7, and 8 are allowable. Claims 3, 4, 6, and 9, dependent from Claim 1, also are allowable.

Therefore, the rejection is moot and Applicants courteously request that the rejection be removed.

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Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested. The Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the undersigned if such contact will facilitate an efficient examination and allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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